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ABSTRACT

This book offers first-hand, personal dialogues about the experience of completing a doctoral dissertation. The group of 10 students at Warwick University (United Kingdom) who contributed their impressions had been together for 3 years; 3 had already completed their doctorates while the others' projects were still incomplete. The book is organized in two parts. The first two chapters, "The Character of PhD Research" and "PhD Supervision," present the view that doctoral research is a process, rather than an outcome or product. The second part of the book deals with students' own views of their experiences. First, a brief profile introduces each of the contributors. The remaining chapters follow particular themes, illustrating them with extracts from jotted notes and writings by the students; they voice the students' impressions and feelings about undertaking a doctoral dissertation the sense of passion needed, the "crumbly cake" of methodology, how they experienced supervision, and how they managed their projects. Finally, an epilogue, "Being a Supervisor," gives the supervisor's account of her experience supervising the doctoral process. (Contains 23 references.) (CH)

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